

TIP OF THE

Feb. 13, 2004

SWORD

Incirlik Air Base, Turkey

Project SMART heats up

TIP OF THE SWORD

Volume 33 ♦ Number 5 ♦
http://source/39ABG_PA/html/tos.html

NEWS

Project SMART: USAFE program focuses on safety 3

Early out: Force Shaping offers airmen an exit 3

Top marks: High school seeks accreditation renewal 4

Caring campaign: Air Force Assistance Fund begins in March 5

FEATURE

Beyond borders: Incirlik, USAFE medical specialists donate time to Romanian orphans6

EDITORIAL

It's my party: Club members seek more services 8

Black History Month: MLK embodies AF core values 8

ASK MEHMET

Turkish trivia: Interesting facts about Turkey 9

SPORTS

Fit for the fight: Base-wide fitness day puts airmen to the test7

COMMUNITY

The Incirlik Guide10



Photo by Senior Airman Michelle Miranda

Neil Bacon, an Incirlik high school world geography teacher, points out the Republic of Turkistan for 13-year-old Josh Van Alstine. An accreditation team will visit the high school in a few weeks. For related story, see Page 4.

Your Turn: Who is your favorite historical president?..... 11

Warrior of the Week12

At the Movies 12

National Prayer Luncheon..... 12

On the cover:

An Incirlik firefighter practices firefighting techniques during a recent exercise. A new U.S. Air Forces in Europe program, called Project SMART, puts the focus for February on fire safety. (Photo by Senior Airman Michelle Miranda)



Photo by 2nd Lt. Elizabeth Culbertson

Jean Best-Richardson, 39th Services Squadron marketing director, discusses African-American Literature with Tech. Sgt. David Walker, 39th Maintenance Squadron fuel systems section chief, during the Black History Month kick-off breakfast Feb 6. For upcoming Black History Month events, see "The Guide" on Page 10.

Editorial Staff

Col. Bill MacLure, 39th Air Base Group Commander
Capt. Rickardo Bodden, Public Affairs Chief
2nd Lt. Elizabeth Culbertson, Deputy Chief
Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips, Public Affairs NCOIC
Staff Sgt. Shanda De Anda, Internal Information, NCOIC
Staff Sgt. Elaine Aviles, Editor
Mehmet Birbiri, Host Nation Adviser

10th Tanker Base Commander
Brig. Gen. H. Levent Turkmen

The 39th Air Base Group Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the Tip of the Sword. The 39th ABG Public Affairs Office (Unit 7090, Box 135, APO AE 09824-5153) is located in Building 833, Room 274. **Submissions:** The editor or other Tip of the Sword staff will edit or re-write material for clarity brevity or to conform with the Associated Press Style Guide, local policy and Air Force style as required by Air Force Instruction 35-101. Contributions for the Tip of the Sword can be made through e-mail to tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil. The editor can be reached at 676-6060. **Deadlines:** Submission deadlines are Wednesday, nine days, prior to publication date. If submissions are publishable, they run based on space available and priority. **Disclaimer:** The Tip of the Sword is printed by Kemal Matbaasi, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written agreement with the 39th Air Base Group. This funded Air Force magazine is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas. Unless otherwise noted, photographs are Air Force photos. The Tip of the Sword uses information from the Armed Forces Information Service, Air Force News Service, U.S. Forces in Europe News Service and other sources. Contents of Tip of the Sword are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense or Department of the U.S. Air Force. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. **Contact Information:** To reach the 39th Air Base Group Public Affairs staff, call 6-3217, fax 6-6492, e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil or stop by Building 833, Room 274.

Project SMART focuses on risk management

By Col. Scott Adams

U. S. Air Forces in Europe Director of Safety

Project SMART “Smartly Managing Awareness, Risk, and Threats” is one of the newest Combat and Special Interest Programs. The goals of Project SMART are to help people emphasize and incorporate a “smart” way of doing things into their lives and emphasize risk management and reduction at the personal and organizational level. These goals are consistent with current safety programs. Project SMART will allow commanders to reinvigorate already strong safety programs and remind individuals to use the question, “Is this the right way to do this?”

Leaders at all levels must judiciously apply Operational Risk Management principles, even in routine tasks. They must also make sure their people know how to use ORM in day-to-day operations, on and off duty, 24/7, 365 days a year. Bottom line — everyone must act when they see something that needs to be fixed.

Project SMART emphasizes U.S. Air Forces in Europe’s focus on safety that starts with everyone being smart about everything we do

and doing everything the right way. In one of his first policy letters, Gen. Robert H. “Doc” Foglesong, USAFE commander, challenged everyone in the command to “take a fresh look at the way they do business and see if there are not smarter and safer ways to work.” USAFE’s emphasis on safety has traditionally been strong, but watch for Project SMART to really focus that emphasis on safety beginning in February.

February’s emphasis will be on fire safety, Fire Smart. Examine your daily routine to minimize unplanned fires in whatever you burn. USAFE recently suffered two facility fires, one resulted in a total loss of a building and an important community-eating establishment. Lt. Col. Brian Mullin, a former USAFE Flight safety officer, recently received an Airman’s Medal for risking injury while putting out flames on a person who didn’t consider the risk while filling plastic gas cans in his pick-up truck bed. Be smart about fire — once there are flames, it’s usually too late.

Project SMART: Be smart enough to know what’s right and do what’s right. Safely manage your awareness of risk and actively combat the threats you face.



Photo by Senior Airman Michelle Miranda

Incirlik firefighters practice firefighting techniques during a recent exercise. Project SMART’s February emphasis is on fire safety.

Recognition inspires people

By Chief Master Sgt. Gary G. Coleman

USAFE Command Chief Master Sergeant

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (USAFENS) – Regardless of rank or time in the Air Force, recognizing a member for outstanding performance plays a huge part in individual and unit morale. Most of us simply want to know that what we do is appreciated.

Whether recognizing someone informally with a simple pat on the back, or through more formal channels like the quarterly and annual awards programs, acknowledging a member’s hard work is an outstanding motivational tool that builds confidence, fosters growth and encourages the learning process. It also helps the subordinate to see the big picture — how their job contributes to the success of the organization and the overall unit mission – laying the path for future success.

In addition, providing outward and sincere recognition inspires others to do well. It creates an exponential effect with other members’ setting higher goals so that they too can be recognized. And, great performers enhance unit effectiveness.

All Air Force leaders are responsible for creating a work environment that inspires trust, teamwork, quality and pride. While there are many different levels and aspects to this responsibility, providing encouragement through recognition is the foundational building block. It’s a duty that seems so simple, yet is often forgotten.

Every U.S. Air Forces in Europe member plays a vital role in our overall mission. Supervisors, take the time to recognize the hard work of your subordinates. Get involved. Know your people and their accomplishments, and when warranted, reward their efforts.

Highlighting a job well done today will produce better leaders tomorrow – it’s our responsibility.

Force Shaping offers ‘early out’

By Maj. John J. Thomas

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — There is good news for thousands of airmen who are considering leaving active duty and thought they couldn’t because of existing service obligations.

An effort dubbed “force shaping” is opening the exit doors to officers and enlisted servicemembers in select career fields and year groups by waiving some active-duty service commitments previously incurred for events like government-funded education, permanent changes of station and promotion.

Force shaping includes opportunities to transition to the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard, and can relieve some people of their active-duty service commitments.

Rules for leaving active duty early will be the least restrictive for anyone wanting to transfer to the Guard or Reserve through the Palace Chase program.

See *Shaping*, Page 4

High school seeks accreditation renewal

By 2nd Lt. Elizabeth Culbertson
39th Air Base Group Public Affairs

Incirlik American High School is getting ready to showcase its accomplishments to the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement. The accreditation team, which visits Feb. 23 to 25, will examine how well Incirlik high school uses test data to create strategies that make a difference in the classroom and meet student needs.

The team will consist of two team members from the United States and two from Department of Defense Dependents Schools. During their site visit, team members will interview parents, teachers and students, observe classrooms, tour the school and review school documentation. The team will be taking a comprehensive look at the school's improvement process.

Incirlik high school's school improvement process is a five-year cyclic program that uses annual standardized tests and surveys submitted by students to come up with strategies that bring the school's mission, which is to "prepare students by providing opportunities for problem solving and clear communication, experiencing cultural diversity and encouraging life long learning," to fruition.

Constantly reassessing student performance gives teachers more tools to do their job, explained Sandra Daniels, Incirlik high school principal.

"More and more, teachers are becoming interactive facilitators rather than lecturers," she said.

"Teachers tend to become isolated in their classrooms," added SIP president Jack Graham. "The SIP process forces them to get together, look at the data and determine what to do as a group to change their strategies."

Every high school faculty member is on a committee devoted to



Photo by Senior Airman Michelle Miranda

Leslie Revis, a high school Spanish teacher, helps 16-year-old Joseph Leverich with his vocabulary assignment.

driving the school improvement process. The committees are community relations, curriculum, assessment and data collection, and professional development.

"Having a common goal has brought the school together as a team," said Principal Daniels.

See School, Page 5

Shaping

Continued from Page 3

Some bonus payback requirements may also be waived, officials said.

Applications for any of the force-shaping early release programs must be made through local military personnel flights by March 12.

More than 16,000 additional people — 12,700 enlisted and 3,900 officers — currently projected to leave will be allowed out to help the service return to its authorized active-duty force size by Sept. 30, 2005. The goal is to get within authorized end strength while avoiding "extreme measures" that "wreak havoc" with mission and morale, officials said.

Active-duty airmen wanting to transfer to the Reserve or Guard will be able to apply for a waiver of an active-duty service commitment regardless of their career field.

"We're a total force, and for our active-duty airmen who would like to separate early and still retain a connection to their Air Force, the Palace Chase program provides the perfect vehicle to preserve operational capability while reducing active-duty end strength," said Maj.

Gen. John Spiegel, the Air Force's director of personnel policy at the Pentagon.

"We're focusing a big part of our efforts there because it keeps (servicemembers) and their expertise in the total force, while allowing them increased stability and a chance to continue working toward a military retirement," the general said.

Some applications may not be approved.

"People should avoid making irrevocable plans until they're notified of application approval," said Master Sgt. Harold McFadden, military personnel flight relocations and employments chief. "Members should not begin outside employment, relocate families, etc., based on an assumption their application will be approved."

Because of manning shortages, 29 officer and 38 enlisted specialties will not qualify for many of the waivers. The complete list of "stressed" career fields that are excluded from many of the waivers is posted at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/shape.htm.

"Approval authority for miscellaneous enlisted separations will rest at the personnel

center, to centrally review applications and ensure compliance with manning needs," said Maj. Dawn Keasley, chief of retirement and separation policy at the Air Staff.

Examples of efforts to "shape" the force go beyond waivers. They include procedures where those who fail to complete technical schools only will be allowed to leave the Air Force or to reclassify into short-manned career fields. High-year-of-tenure extensions will only be granted to those in specific shortage career fields or for personal hardship reasons.

According to officials, force shaping is designed to return the Air Force to its authorized uniformed population while shifting some airmen to fill positions in specialties that need more people of their rank.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Valerie Riley, 39th Air Base Group career assistance adviser. People can also call the MPF at 6-3225 or the Air Force Contact Center at DSN 665-5000 or toll-free at (800) 616-3775. (Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center News Service)

AFAF campaign begins March 15

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — Incirlik's Air Force Assistance Fund "Commitment to Caring" campaign runs March 15 to April 23, asking airmen to contribute to any of four Air Force-related charities.

The charities benefit active-duty, Reserve, Guard, retired Air Force people, surviving spouses and families. This is the 31st year of the fund drive. Charities receive 100 percent of designated contributions.

"Requests for assistance have continued at record levels since Sept. 11, 2001," said retired Lt. Gen. Mike McGinty, Air Force Aid Society chief executive officer. "Last year the Air Force Aid Society helped 30,000 airmen with (more than) \$22.6 million in assistance. That's a lot of help. Contributions are vital for the society to sustain this kind of help. It is truly an airmen-helping-airmen program."

The secretary and chief of staff of the Air Force recently announced a \$5.2 million goal. In 2003, Air Force people gave \$5.9 million to the fund.

"Last year, Team Incirlik contributed more than \$22,000 during the AFAF drive," said Capt. Dennison Frasier, 39th Air Base Group AFAF project officer. "In return, community members received more than \$100,000 in emergency assistance, educational grants and funding for community enhancement programs."

People can contribute through cash, check, money order or payroll deduction.

"The minimum donation is \$1, which everyone should be able to afford," Captain Frasier said. "People who donate more than \$250 should get a receipt for tax purposes since all

donations are tax deductible."

The charities are:

— The Air Force Aid Society, the official charitable organization of the Air Force which provides airmen and their families with worldwide emergency financial assistance, education assistance and an array of base level community-enhancement programs. Base family support centers have full details on programs and eligibility requirements. Information is also available online at www.afas.org.

— The Air Force Enlisted Villages in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., near Eglin Air Force Base, which provides rent subsidy and other support to indigent widows and widowers of retired enlisted people 55 and older. More information is available at www.afenlistedwidows.org.

— The Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund, a life-care community in San Antonio for retired officers, spouses, widows or widowers and family members. The Air Force Village Web site is www.airforcevillages.com.

— The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation, which provides rent and financial assistance to indigent widows and widowers of officers and enlisted people in their own homes and communities. The LeMay Foundation Web site is www.lemayfoundation.org.

Contributions to the AFAF are tax deductible. For more information, visit <http://afassistancefund.org> or the Air Force Personnel Center's voting and fund-raising Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/votefund.

For more information, call your unit project officer. (Courtesy of AFPC News Service)

School

Continued from Page 4

In the past, the SIP has proven effective. The student body as a whole scored well above average on standardized tests last year, particularly impressive considering the added stress of the impending voluntary dependent relocation.

Faculty hope the current school strategies - improving written communication, giving additional academic support to students scoring below the standard and using technology to improve communication skills meet with similar success.

Principal Daniels foresees this year's accreditation team visit more as a "celebration of what we do, of what makes Incirlik high school great," than as a feared examination.

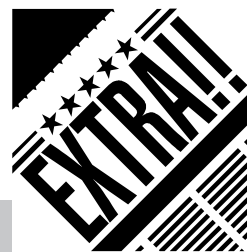
"I hope the team will see the partnership be-

tween the school and the community," she said.

Mr. Graham hopes for two things from the visit: confirmation that the SIP is performing as it should and suggestions of what the school is missing.

"It's helpful to have an outsider's perspective," said Mr. Graham. "Sometimes when you're immersed in the process, it's difficult to become detached and gain an objective view. We want to keep our school's momentum going and we hope the team suggests ways we can do that."

The accreditation team outbriefing is Feb. 25 and parents are invited to attend a forum March 3 to discuss the team's findings. For additional information about the site visit, call Principal Daniels at 6-6484.



IN
BRIEF

Flightline driving

A flightline driving program meeting is Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the 39th Operations Squadron conference room in Building 526. Unit flightline driving program managers, primary and alternate, are required to attend. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Kevin Knox, airfield management deputy chief, at 6-8511.

Patriot Express cancellation

The Patriot Express missions are cancelled for Saturday and Feb. 22. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Ruben Villarreal, 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron passenger travel NCO in charge, at 6-6520.

MPF closure

The military personnel flight closes Tuesday for training and re-opens Wednesday at 9 a.m. Emergency services will be available. For more information, call MPF customer service at 6-3280.

Re-enlistment window

Air Force personnel officials are changing the re-enlistment eligibility window beginning March 5. The new policy requires active-duty airmen to re-enlist within three months of their term of service expiring, a change from the 12-month window currently in effect. For more information, call military personnel flight re-enlistments at Staff Sgt. Joyce Shephard, NCO in charge of re-enlistments and extensions, at 6-5080.

Driver's license expiration

People operating a motor vehicle with an expired license will have their driving privileges indefinitely revoked, according to Turkish Traffic Law #2918, Article 98. Turkish traffic police will not recognize stateside license extensions or military clauses, only the date on the license. For more information, call 39th Security Forces Squadron Pass and Registration at 6-6617 or 6-6567.

Gas coupon policy

Incirlik's new gas coupon policy limits people to 100 liters of gas coupons and 400 liters of diesel coupons per month. The sale or transfer of gas coupons to unauthorized people is illegal. For more information, call the legal office at 6-6800 or visit the Source and review policy number 30.

Beyond borders

Incirlik, USAFE medical professionals help Romanian orphans

By Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips
39th Air Base Group Public Affairs

Dr. Jon Tabije, Ph.D., 39th Medical Squadron licensed clinical psychologist, recently traveled from Incirlik Air Base with eight other U.S. Air Forces in Europe medical experts to Timisoara, Romania to donate much needed supplies and provide medical care to children in the Global Hope orphanage.

"We provided educational services to the caretakers at the orphanage and hopefully that will make a difference in the quality of some of the orphans' lives, Dr. Tabije said. "We also provided much needed supplies that will make the orphans lives more comfortable."

The team performed hearing screenings, assessed motor needs and behavioral and emotional issues, and provided orphanage workers with strategies for intervening and correcting problems.

39th MDS Life Skills Flight and Officers' Wives Club volunteers donated hundreds of dollars worth of medical and dental supplies and clothing, along with two new red tri-cycles and various toys. With the other USAFE donations, the valued amount was estimated in the thousands.

"Doctor Tabije added tremendous insight about some of our children's behaviors and how we can realistically work with them," said Matthew Gible, Global Hope Romanian operations director, who said the staff benefited from the visit along with the children. "Imagine yourself as a child and how big your eyes would be if you saw two tables full of items for you and your brothers and sisters. They felt the love behind each of those gifts."

Other bases throughout USAFE also sent healthcare professionals from pediatrics, child psychiatry, speech and language pathology, audiology, physical therapy, occupational therapy and early childhood education.

"We came from our respective bases and disciplines and formed a smooth operating medical team," Doctor Tabije said. "We joined



Courtesy photo

Dr. Jon Tabije, Ph.D., 39th Medical Squadron licensed clinical psychologist, traveled to Romania recently to donate supplies and medical care to children in the Global Hope orphanage.

with our Romanian counterparts and learned how to work with limited resources while being culturally sensitive to the needs of our patients."

The visit to the orphanage was part of a weeklong Educational and Developmental Intervention Services conference to problem solve and come together to help disadvantaged children in Romania.

EDIS is a congressionally mandated program sponsored by the Department of Defense Education Activity that provides ser-

vices to children with special needs.

"As a gesture of good will to enhance developing countries, we educated orphanage staff members to help them capitalize on their skills and reduce burn out in a country that suffers from limited materials, financial, educational and professional resources after the dissolution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the revolution in 1989."

An orphanage staff members' life is often an uphill battle, Doctor Tabije said.

"My emotions were mixed while on this TDY," he said. "I experienced apparent sadness over some of the sights and the hopelessness of some of the situations. However, I also felt a great admiration for the orphanage workers, missionaries and for the children themselves. Most show a heartiness of spirit."

He said the best part of the trip was watching the children's faces light up.

"Without fail, any home or facility that we would go to usually resulted in children getting excited and vying for our attention," Doctor Tabije said. "There were many bed-ridden children who smiled and laughed when we approached them, rubbed their heads, jostled their hair or just looked them in the face and talked with them."

Often times, media coverage only showcases the Air Force and Department of De-

fense high tech planes and weapon systems, not the servicemembers who continually help poor people in under-developed countries around the world, Doctor Tabije said.

"Projects such as these bring to light the other side of the military, specifically humanitarian missions," he said. "Military personnel and civilians working for the military provide services that really make me feel proud to be affiliated with the U.S. Air Force and also really proud to be an American."

"Projects such as these bring to light the other side of the military, specifically humanitarian missions."

**-- Dr. Jon Tabije
— 39th Medical Squadron
licensed clinical psychologist**



Hidden Heroes is a U.S. Air Forces in Europe special interest program that recognizes people and programs that make a difference to the base and community. The program's goal is to increase volunteerism throughout Incirlik and USAFE. To volunteer, call the family support center at 6-6755.

Base-wide fitness test challenges airmen

By Staff Sgt. Elaine Aviles
39th Air Base Group Public Affairs

Base airmen had a good showing recently during Incirlik's first base-wide fitness test, which included a 1.5-mile run, push-ups, sit-ups and waist measurements.

Out of 198 official testers, 143 passed, with five people maxing out the test with a score of 100. A passing score is 75 to 100.

The rest of the base tested unofficially.

"We plan on holding base-wide fitness tests periodically throughout the year," said Ken Ballard, health and wellness center fitness program manager. "It's a great way to identify people who may need help in the future when they test officially. It also gives people a chance to identify their problem areas, if any."

Base leaders initiated unit PT sessions and unofficial tests to help people meet the new Air Force fitness standards, which became effective in January.

"The standards give people a tangible goal," said Lt. Col. Toni Kemper, 39th Air Base Group director of staff, who scored 100 on her unofficial test. "I think the PT sessions are very helpful since they focus on the areas we're tested on. They provided the motivation I needed to add more running to my fitness regimen."

While people performed well overall, there were areas that people can work on improv-



Photo by Senior Airman James Seymore

Senior Airman Joseph Sherwood, 39th Contracting Squadron contract administrator, runs at the track.

ing, Mr. Ballard said.

"People had some trouble with push ups," he said. "Some people didn't go down all the way, but the push-ups were still being counted. We're going to try to more strictly enforce proper form the next time."

People can prepare for future tests by making fitness a daily priority.

"While you're at work, do 20 push-ups three times a day during a lull," Mr. Ballard said. "And do a set of 30 sit-ups after you wake up and another before you go to bed."

As for running, Mr. Ballard suggested people start by working on their distance.

"Work your way up to two miles, and then start working on speed," he said. "Try interval training. Go to the track and run a lap as fast as you can and then walk a lap. Do this two or three times and your normal running time will improve."

People who scored marginally, which is 70 to 75, or poorly, which is a score under 70, will have some help improving their fitness scores.

"People who score marginally attend a Healthy Living Workshop to learn about behavior modification, nutrition and fitness," Mr. Ballard. "Those who scored poorly go to the workshop and a fitness improvement class."

Marginal scorers test again in six months, and poor scorers in three. People who passed with a score of 75 or better will test annually.

For more information, call the HAWC at 6-8256 or contact your unit PT leader.

For a complete list of Air Force fitness standards, visit www.af.mil/news/USAF_Fitness_charts.pdf.



Moonlight Madness — The top placers for the Jan. 30 Project CHEER "Moonlight Madness" fun run and walk were Shaun Steward with 14:15 and Christopher Aitken with 14:21, Kari Schao with 15:00 and Rachel Villegas with 15:10.

Project CHEER B-Ball — The fitness center sponsors a Project CHEER President's Day weekend 3 on 3 basketball tournament Sun-

day at 4 p.m. For more information, call 6-6086.

Project CHEER Cosmic bowling — The Magic Carpet Bowling Center sponsors a free Late Nighter Cosmic Bowling Saturday from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. For more information, call 6-6789.

Rugby — Rugby enthusiasts meet Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 5 p.m. at the high school sports field. Everyone is welcome. Instruction is provided for beginners. For more information, call the fitness center at 6-6086.

Youth registration — Sign ups for baseball, softball and T-ball registration for ages 5 to 18 run through Feb. 28. Cost is \$30 for youth center members and \$35 for non-members. Volunteer coaches are needed. For more information, call 6-6670.

Bowling fundraiser — An annual awards

committee bowling fundraiser is Thursday at 2 p.m. Register by Wednesday. Cost is \$50 per team. For more information, call Master Sgt. Benjamin Leal, 39th Mission Support Squadron first sergeant, at 6-3111.

Combat Hapkido — The fitness center sponsors Combat Hapkido Mondays and Wednesdays at 7:45 p.m. and Fridays at 6:30 p.m. Combat Hapkido is a self-defense art. For more information, call the fitness center at 6-6086.

Belly Dancing classes — The community center offers belly dancing Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 until 7 p.m. Cost is \$35 for eight classes. For more information, call 6-6966.

Circuit training class — The fitness center sponsors full-body circuit training classes Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the base gym. For more information, call Dustin Johnson, class instructor, at 6-3466 or 6-6788.

ACTION
LINE

Col. Bill MacLure
39th Air Base Group Commander

Party woes

Concern: I cannot understand why the club wants to lose business. I called recently to reserve a day and time for my daughter's birthday party, but the next available day wasn't until Feb. 28. I asked for Jan. 24 or 31. I asked about Sundays and weekdays, but was told by Lesley Bryant that parties can only be scheduled on Saturdays. When I said the club is losing a lot of business, the worker said that it is not worth it to pay overtime to the janitors.

My husband and I have been club members for more than 20 years. We always hear the club is losing money and we need to support the club. We have always supported the club. I feel now the club doesn't want to sup-

port its members. If it is more costly to have more parties, then charge an extra fee for parties on the additional days. I would be willing to pay this fee. I called almost two months before the date I needed, and couldn't get the day I wanted. What kind of service is that? What if I had just arrived with my family—I would not be able to have a party to help my child adjust to her new base.



Response: Thank you for your support and patronage of the club. I appreciate that you have been a member of Air Force clubs for 20 years. Recently, the club's monthly revenues have decreased by 50 percent while at the same time per-person Turkish payroll costs increased 70 percent because of the weakness of the dollar and wage increases. The result is the club has lost \$290,000 since April, and must be extremely judicious with its hours and use of employees. The cost of extra staff for a Sunday afternoon birthday party would make the party prohibitively expensive.

Birthday parties are scheduled for Saturdays to minimize labor costs (janitors and duty managers are already working). It takes workers about five hours to vacuum the ballroom, set up the party, monitor and tear

down the giant castles.

For a birthday party on Sunday or any time the club is closed, the club would need to schedule a janitor, waiter and a duty manager for the door. The labor cost alone would be \$225 per birthday party. Sunday parties would cost \$450 due to the high labor cost.

During the week, the club has a steady schedule of meetings, which preclude the five-hour block of time for a birthday party.

Additionally, the normal business of keeping the dining room running and taking care of other events keeps the janitors too busy to support the additional load of setting up and tearing down a birthday party on most days. But if our schedule allows, we will try to make a weekday party available.

Other birthday party options are the bowling center and the community activity center ballroom. In the future, the caterer will advise customers of those options if the club is already booked.

The 39th Services Squadron is committed to providing the best service to base people and will continue to strive to accommodate everyone's needs. Thanks for raising your concerns.

Black History Month: MLK embodied Air Force core values

By MacArthur Burton

11th Logistics Readiness Squadron Fleet Manager

BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE, D.C. — It's Black History Month, and my thoughts drift back to what it must have been like to be Dr. Martin Luther King in America in the 1960s, a time in history of turmoil and social upheaval. I imagine several parallels between being in the military now and the forces Dr. King was facing then.

Back then, there was a war going on, and the "generals" of racial prejudice and intolerance were openly invading America. These generals were formidable in sweeping across the country and enlisting the aid and support of the masses. They were ripping apart the very fabric of the outstanding potential of the most powerful nation on earth and appeared to be unstoppable.

In turbulent times, all nations need heroes. Fortunately for America and the world, Dr. King was drafted into service to his country by a call from his conscience — and to him, his duty was clear.

Can you imagine what it must have been like for a young minister to shoulder the burden of righteousness for a country the size of America? A young man who had just started a family and was heading a small church, to be thrust into the limelight of the world stage? Can you imagine going into battle against the unbridled hatred of a seemingly irresistible force, armed only with faith and the belief that right conquers might, that goodness resides in all, and that you can do all things through Christ?

Can you imagine how Dr. King created an army of followers based on integrity, strength of character and his indomitable will, while re-

maintaining true to his commitment of non-violence?

Can you see how he was compelled into service before self, even in the threat to his personal safety and the safety of his family? Does not his actions bring home a deeper understanding of the phrase many are called but the chosen are few?

Do you recognize that through excellence in all that he did, he became the model and mentor for thousands, and not just African-Americans? Americans from all types of divergent backgrounds began to recognize that America was on a road to ruin and that this lone voice of reason was rising above the din of rhetoric of hatred and segregation.

For all of his accomplishments during this scarred period of American history, Dr. King lived only 37 short years. His famous "I Have A Dream" speech, for all its eloquence, was only 16 minutes long. He was assassinated at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tenn., in 1968. Gone too soon.

The National Civil Rights Museum is built around the Lorraine Motel and if you ever have the opportunity to visit the museum, I think you will be amazed. There is one particular sculpture that depicts the Memphis garbage workers' strike, with workers shoveling garbage into a city garbage truck while armed national guardsmen stand in protection of the workers.

In the scene with the soldiers and their fixed-bayonets, the workers are wearing a simple cardboard placard around their necks that read, "I AM A MAN." This is the simple message that Dr. King was bringing to the world.

During Black History Month, take time to imagine, consider and recognize Dr. King's legacy to America — and to the world.



ASK MEHMET

By Mehmet Birbiri, Host Nation Adviser

Did you know that Turkey...

- ♦ Is known as the Cradle of Civilization – in fact, many civilizations have been here since before 9000 B.C.
- ♦ Is central to Europe, Asia, Russia and to the Middle East.
- ♦ Is a long-time member of NATO (since 1952).
- ♦ Borders 3 major seas: the Black Sea, the Aegean, the Mediterranean.
- ♦ Is the birthplace of King Midas, who turned everything into gold.
- ♦ Has 70 percent of its population under age 35.
- ♦ Is the original destination of the most celebrated and romantic train, the Orient Express.
- ♦ Was the center of two of the major empires in history, the Byzantine and Ottoman Empires.
- ♦ Provides 70 percent of the world's hazelnuts.
- ♦ Has a 650-year-old covered shopping mall of 64 streets, 3,500 shops, 22 entrances, and 25,000 workers: the famous Grand Bazaar.
- ♦ Is the birthplace and home of St. Nicholas — popularly known as Santa Claus.
- ♦ Was founded as a modern republic in 1923 by one of the greatest leaders in history, Ataturk.
- ♦ Is where Noah's Ark landed — at Mount Agri (Ararat) Eastern Turkey.
- ♦ Is the location for two of the Seven Wonders of the World: the Temple of Artemis and the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus.
- ♦ Has 3,500 periodical publications, 1,056 radio stations and 280 TV channels.
- ♦ Has historical relics pertaining to three of the world's major religions: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.
- ♦ Has the most valuable silk carpet in the world, in the Mevlana Museum, Konya with 144 knots per sq. cm. In the 13th century, Marco Polo wrote "The best and handsomest of rugs are woven here, and also silks of crimson and other rich colors."
- ♦ Is said to have provided the water for the Garden of Eden from its 2 great rivers: the Euphrates and Tigris.
- ♦ Is the birthplace of St. Paul for centuries, the sick have drunk from the well of St. Paul in Tarsus.
- ♦ Used its navy to rescue the Jewish people from persecution in Spain in 1492.
- ♦ Is uniquely in two continents: Europe and Asia.
- ♦ Is the location of the city of Troy in the west of the country, where the Trojan War was fought for ten years.
- ♦ Had the world's first female Supreme Court Judge, and gave women the right to vote in 1934.
- ♦ Is the location of the first purported beauty contest, judged by Paris, with Aphrodite, Hera and Athena as leading participants.
- ♦ Became a member of the United Nations as early as 1945.
- ♦ Has a city, Mardin, which is one of the few places where you



Courtesy photo

An imaginary reconstruction of the wooden horse the Greeks used to capture Troy. Troy is one of the many historical cities throughout Turkey.

can hear the native language of Jesus Christ – Aramic. The final home of the Virgin Mary, to which she traveled with St. John, is located nearby.

- ♦ Was producing wine as early as 4000 B.C.
- ♦ Has the first church ever built (St. Peter's) in Antioch, southern Turkey. It is also the site of the oldest temple at Sanliurfa dated between 8500 and 9000 B.C.
- ♦ Is where cherries were first found, by the Romans who planted them throughout the world, at Giresun (also known as Kerasos), in the stunning Black Sea region.
- ♦ First introduced tulips to Holland, and today still supplies tulips to the world.
- ♦ Was the first to produce and use coins 2,700 years ago.
- ♦ Is the location of the Seven Churches of Asia.
- ♦ Is one of the safest countries in the world according to comparative statistics.

Taken from "The Best Kept Secret" by Christopher Lawrence, John Melby of the Strategic Review Group.

In Turkish

tarih - history
(tah-reeh)

cografya - geography
(joh-ruff-yeah)

THE INCIRLIK GUIDE



Today

Writer's guild — The writer's guild sponsors a Poetry Improv Jam from 6 to 8 p.m. at the community center. For more information, call Jean Best-Richardson, 39th Services Squadron marketing director, at 6-8411.

Saturday

Men's Bible study — A men's Bible study, "Power of a Praying Husband" meets Saturday, Feb. 21 and 28 at 9 a.m. in the consolidated club complex Low Places. For more information, call Brian Meeker, Bible study coordinator, at 6-5661.

Shot clinic — The veterinary clinic is open for vaccinations from 9 a.m. to noon. No appointments necessary. For more information, call the clinic at 6-3119.

Sunday

Sunday school cancellation — There is no Protestant Sunday School Sunday. Sunday School resumes Feb. 22 and 29 from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. at the chapel. Classes are available for all ages. For more information, call the chapel at 6-6441.

Religious education cancellation — There is no Catholic religious education classes Sunday. For more information, call 6-3890.

Tuesday

Solo Flight — Single and unaccompanied parents meet at the consolidated club complex Piper's Lounge Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, call the family support center at 6-6755.

Thursday

Toastmasters — Toastmasters International meets the first and

third Thursday of every month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the consolidated club complex Piper Room. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Sheris Poisson, Toastmasters vice president, at 6-6954.

Free breakfast — The consolidated club complex sponsors a member's appreciation breakfast from 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. For more information, call 6-6010.

Ongoing

Language classes — The community center offers both conversational English and conversational Turkish classes from 6 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$25 for four classes. For more information, call 6-6966.

Thrift Shop donations — The Thrift Shop welcomes donations and consignments during operating hours, which are Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesdays from 5 to 8 p.m., and the first Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Donations are tax deductible. For more information, call 6-6247.

Elementary cookbook — The elementary school parent teacher organization is publishing a cookbook to raise funds for the school. People can submit recipes by e-mailing incirlikcookbook@excite.com or stopping by the school. For more information, call Robin Crowe, PTO publicity chairperson, at 6-2471.

Upcoming

Catholic women's retreat — A Catholic Women's retreat is Feb. 21 at 9 a.m. at the Crossroads Café. For more information or to sign up, call 6-5267 or 6-3890.

Ash Wednesday — Ash Wednesday mass is Feb. 25 from 12:10 and 6 p.m. For more information, call 6-3890.

Scrapbooking classes — The skills development center sponsors scrapbooking classes Feb. 20 from 6 p.m. to midnight and Feb. 25 from 6 to 10 p.m. Cost is \$5 or \$10 with instruction. For more in-

formation, call 6-3858.

Eagle Scouts — Cub Scout Pack 345 sponsors its annual Blue and Gold banquet Feb. 21 at 5 p.m. in the elementary school cafeteria. For reservations or to volunteer to be a guest speaker, call 6-2277 by Tuesday.

Antioch trip — Information, Tickets and Tours and the chapel sponsor a trip to Antioch. The tour includes the Payas Castle and the Church of St. Peter. For more information, call the chapel at 6-6441 or ITT at 332-7675.

Black History Month extravaganza

ganza — A Black History Month extravaganza is Feb. 28 at the consolidated club complex. For more information, call Master Sgt. Curtis Palmer at 6-3501.

Stations of the Cross — Stations of the Cross takes place Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. in the chapel sanctuary. A soup social will follow. For more information, call 6-3890 or the chapel at 6-6441.

Teen night — The youth center sponsors a teen frito pie and movie night Feb. 21 from 7 to 11 p.m. Free for center members; \$3 for non-members. For more information, call 6-6670.

COMBAT & SPECIAL INTEREST PROGRAMS



Tuesday

Project CHEER scrabble tourney — The community center sponsors a scrabble tournament from 6 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$2 per person. Winner takes cash. For more information, call 6-6966.

Customer College — Incirlik's Customer College class is Tuesday through Friday. For more information, call 6-8289.

Thursday

Project CHEER billiards tourney — The community center sponsors a billiards tournament from 6 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$2. For more information, call 6-6966.

Friday

Combat Care movie — The family support center sponsors a children's movie day from 10 a.m. to noon. The movie is "The Land Before Time." For more information, call 6-6755.

Saturday

Call your sweetheart — The family support center offers free phone and Internet service from 6 to 11 p.m. for Valentine's Day. For more information, call 6-6755.

Ongoing

Volunteers needed — The Hidden Heroes office seeks volunteers. For more information or a list of volunteer opportunities, call 6-6755.

Upcoming

Project CHEER X-Box championship — The community center seeks participants for the live U.S. Air Forces in Europe X-Box championship March 4. For more information, call 6-6966.

Project CHEER chess tourney — The community center sponsors a chess tournament Feb. 29 from 6 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$2 per person. Winner takes cash. For more information, call 6-6966.



SALUTES

USAFE awards

The 39th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office garnered seven U.S. Air Forces in Europe Public Affairs media and excellence awards, which included:

An Excellence Award for best internal information program;

First place for Web-based Publication and commentary (Staff Sgt. Elaine Aviles); and

Second place for Magazine Format Publication (*Tip of the Sword*), news story (Staff Sgt. Jeremy Tredway), feature story (Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips) and Print Journalist of the Year (Sergeant Aviles).

AFN-I awards

Congratulations to American Forces Network-Incirlık for earning two annual awards.

Air Force News Agency supervisor/manager of the year: Master Sgt. Larry Oliver

AFNEWS small workcenter of the year: Detachment 7

Congratulations to Senior Airman Lee Hoover for earning an Air Force Broadcasting Service award for Broadcast Airman of the Year and the Air Force News Agency junior enlisted member of the year.

Mission support awards

Congratulations to the following people for earning a 2003 Mission Support Award:

Outstanding Civilian Personnel Officer: Veronica Hinton

Outstanding Civilian Intermediate Program Manager: Lisa Armes

Nathan Altschuler Award for Excellence in

Education Programs Category II: Education Services Center

Enlisted Professional Military Education Achievement Award Category 1: Staff Sgt. Melanie Parrish

Senior Family Support/Family Readiness Individual Award: Master Sgt. William Stephenson

Officer promotions

To colonel: Paul Cardon, 39th Medical Squadron

To lieutenant colonel: Edwin Hurston and Diana Starkey, 39th MDS; and Ferah Ozbek, Office of Defense Cooperation, Ankara

To major: Karyn Young-Carignan, 39th MDS

Enlisted promotions

To master sergeant: Michelle Brittingham and Janelle Ohyrn, 39th Communications Squadron; Christopher Lathrop, Office of Defense Cooperation, Ankara; and Richard Temple, 39th Operations Squadron

To technical sergeant: Timothy Evans, 39th CS; Anthony Garcia, 39th Mission Support Squadron; Keith Hall, 728th Air Mobility Squadron; and Melinda Peers, 39th MDS

To staff sergeant: Brian Badstibner, 39th CS; Wesley Brogan, 39th OS; Melinda Cena, 728th AMS; Daniel Choi, 425th Air Base Squadron; Robert Demarino, Michael Peters, Larry Deskins and Mark Grunwald, 39th Maintenance Squadron; April Heller, Detachment 4; and Derek Washburn, 39th Security Forces Squadron

To senior airman: Leah Brakey, 39th MDS; David Buzinski, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron; Dallas Edwards and Delmario Watts, 39th CS; William Lepionka and Joseph Misher, 39th SFS; Rick Meisenhelder, 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron; and Christopher Montoya, 728th AMS

To airman: Jessica Sipe, 728th AMS

print, very comfortable, smoke-free home, \$300 OBO. Call Jeremy or Ashley at 6-5718 (home) or 6-6757 (work).

Wanted: Dependable car, \$1,000 or less. Call Darnell or Antoinette at 6-5904.

Help wanted: Laboratory technicians, clinical microbiology experience, fluent in speaking and reading English, able to perform blood draws, salary is negotiable. Call Meredith at 8-8601 or e-mail meredithjwelsh@hotmail.com.

Help wanted: Certified medical coder at base TRICARE Service Center, provides operational support, including coding audits, analysis and review and oversight of the billing process. For more information or to apply, e-mail cover letter and resume to tricare-jobs@saic.com.

YOUR TURN



To submit a question for "Your Turn," call 6-6060 or e-mail tip.sword@incirlık.af.mil

In honor of President's Day Monday, who is your favorite historical president?

"Abraham Lincoln ... he always did the right thing. His decisions may not have appeared to be the best or most popular, but he stuck to his guns."

— **Capt. John Harwood, 39th Air Base Group Legal Office**



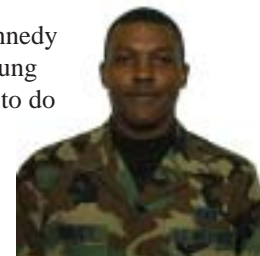
"Thomas Jefferson ... because he had many inventions and wrote the Declaration of Independence."

— **Staff Sgt. Anne Russell, 48th Communications Squadron, Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England**



"John Fitzgerald Kennedy ... he inspired the young people of the nation to do great things."

— **Staff Sgt. Daryl Harvey, 39th Operations Squadron**



"Bill Clinton ... his actions as president show that regardless of one's position in life, we are human and make decisions that may be good or bad. No one is perfect."

— **Staff Sgt. Tony Phillips, 39th ABG Command Post**



"John F. Kennedy ... he never gave up. With all of his struggles, he still managed to make a great difference as president for the three years he served."

— **Airman 1st Class Leah Brakey, 39th Medical Squadron**



CLASSIFIEDS

For sale: Antique carpets from Kayseri, can't find in the Alley, \$750 each. Call 6-5683.

For sale: Assorted toddler toys, including easel with clip, Legos, trucks, a Sit-n-Spin and stuffed animals; various Tupperware products; couch; and toddler clothes; all in great condition. Call for prices at 6-5191.

For sale: Full-size couch and loveseat, floral

Make a joyful noise



Photo by Senior Michelle Miranda

(From left) Staff Sgt. Wendell Boone, 39th Communications Squadron base emissions security manager; Staff Sgt. Sheris Poisson, 39th Mission Support Squadron officer promotions NCO in charge; Denise Brown, 39th Medical Squadron demand reduction program manager; and Senior Airman Jason Porter, 39th Contracting Squadron contract administrator, sing the National Anthem Thursday during Incirlik's National Prayer Luncheon.

President's Day holiday hours

Bowling center: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Dining facility: normal hours

Fitness center: 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Golf course: 6:30 a.m. to dusk

Closed Monday

Consolidated club complex
Veterinary clinic
Outdoor recreation
Skills development center
Auto hobby shop
Library
Community center
Child development center
Youth center
Commissary

Crossroads Cafe: Closed today and Saturday

Base exchange: Normal hours

AT THE MOVIES

dents are working on the ruins of a 14th-century castle. Kate and Andre make a startling discovery: It turns out that the head of the corporation running the dig opened up a wormhole leading to the 14th century. Showing at 5 p.m. (116 minutes)

Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World (PG-13) — Starring Russell Crowe and Paul Bettany. During the Napoleonic Wars, Lucky Jack Aubrey captains the crew of the H.M.S. Surprise. When the ship is suddenly attacked by an enemy, Aubrey decides to set sail in a high stakes chase across two oceans. Showing at 7 p.m. (139 minutes)



Sunday

The Missing (R) — Starring Tommy Lee Jones and Cate Blanchett. In the late 19th-century wilderness of the southwestern United States, a woman named Maggie struggles to raise her two daughters on her own. When one of them Lily is kidnapped by a psychopath who has been murdering young teenage girls, Maggie must turn to her father

Samuel. Showing at 7 p.m. (130 minutes)

Thursday

Love Actually (R) — Starring Hugh Grant and Martine McCutcheon. Lives and loves collide, mingle and finally climax on Christmas Eve—again and again and again—with romantic, poignant and funny consequences for all. Showing at 7 p.m. (125 minutes)

At the M1

Cold Mountain (R) — 10:30 a.m., 12 p.m., 3 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 6 p.m., 9 p.m. and midnight (155 minutes)

The Last Samurai (R) — Noon, 1:30 p.m., 3 p.m., 6 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 9 p.m., 10:30 p.m. and midnight (154 minutes)

Underworld (R) — 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m. and 11:45 p.m. (121 minutes)

Gothika (R) — 11:45 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. (95 minutes)

The provision of movie information does not constitute an endorsement by the 39th Air Base Group, U.S. government, Department of Defense or Department of the U.S. Air Force.

At the Oasis

Today

Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat (PG) — Starring Mike Myers and Kelly Preston. Sally and brother Conrad are left home on a rainy day and are rowdily entertained by a mysterious man-size cat; problem is, Mom has left strict instructions that the house remain spotless. Showing at 7 p.m. (97 minutes)



Saturday

Timeline (PG-13) — Starring Paul Walker and Frances O'Connor. In France, Professor Johnston and a team of archaeology stu-